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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

APPLICATION OF CALIFORNIA-AMERICAN
WATER COMPANY (U210W) FOR
AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE ITS
REVENUES FOR WATER SERVICE BY
\$34,559,200 OR 16.29% IN THE YEAR 2018, BY
\$8,478,500 OR 3.43% IN THE YEAR 2019, AND
BY \$7,742,600 OR 3.03% IN THE YEAR 2020.

Application No. 16-07-002
(Filed July 1, 2016)

MOTION FOR PARTY STATUS BY THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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September 12, 2016

Attorneys for the County of Los Angeles

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OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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Pursuant to the California Public Utilities Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, Rule 1.4(a)(4), the County of Los Angeles (County) respectfully requests party status in the above-captioned proceeding.

I.

COUNTY'S INTEREST IN THE PROCEEDING

The County is a charter county providing a myriad of services to its residents, including social welfare and other safety net services to its most disadvantaged residents. The County is one of the nation's largest counties with 4,084 square miles, and has the largest population of any county in the nation - nearly 10 million residents who account for approximately 27 percent of California's population. The County is located within one of the service areas of California-American Water Company ("Applicant"). The County wishes to participate in this proceeding to ensure that the Applicant's rates are just and reasonable.

In this regard, the County is concerned about the impact of the application on its residents, particularly those with low, moderate and/or fixed incomes. These customers will disproportionately bear the burden of the requested water rate increases. These concerns are amplified given the clear disparity between the rates charged by the Applicant and the rates charged by publicly owned utilities for equivalent water service.

Comments and evidence the County will present if granted party status will be relevant to the issues in this proceeding. The customers of living within the County are not fully represented in this matter. Moreover the County has unique and specific information relevant to the reasonableness of the requested rate increase. The Board of Supervisors of the County (Board) is also the Board of Directors for the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts. Accordingly, the Board is in a unique position to have working knowledge and experience in owning, operating, and maintaining public water systems in the County. A large portion of the rate increase is related to new capital investments and the Board has amassed broad skill in infrastructure projects, including overseeing the design, construction and management for many thousands of infrastructure projects.

Accordingly, the County wishes to participate in this proceeding to protect its interests and those of its constituents to ensure that the Applicant's rates are just and reasonable. In this regard, the County may argue for rate relief or reductions to customers' bills, including those low, moderate and fixed income customers unable to bear the cost of any increases. The County may also examine and challenge the Applicant's proposed expenditures, rate design, and policy positions.

The County's participation will not cause delay and no existing party will be prejudiced.

II.
CONTACT INFORMATION

Copies of all pleadings, notices, ruling, orders and other correspondence in this proceeding may be served on:

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III.
CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, the County respectfully requests party status in the above-captioned proceeding.

Dated: September 12, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP

By: /s/ Jason Ackerman
Jason Ackerman
Attorney for The County of Los Angeles